Drought in Andhra Pradesh

304. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of the districts and blocks affected by drought in Andhra Pradesh, during the current year;

(b) whether the State had sought any additional Central assistance in cash and kind in the wake of drought;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the action taken thereon; and

(e) the current status of drought in that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) In January, 2002, the Government of Andhra Pradesh had declared 993 out of 1125 mandals in 22 out of 23 districts in the State as drought affected.

(b) to (d) Taking into account the request of the State Government for allocation of foodgrains, 4 lakh MTs of foodgrains were allocated to the State under Food for Work Programme (FFWP) from January, 2002, to March, 2002 and 15 lakh MTs of foodgrains have so far been further allocated to them from April, 2002, under the Special component of Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), for generation of additional employment.

(e) According to information supplied by the State Government in May, 2002, 22 out of 23 districts were affected by drought.

Maize production in A.P.

305. DR. DASARI^NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be please'd to state:

(a) the annual production of Maize in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) how it compares with other major maize growing States of the country; and